

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 72, lines 7-9 with the following amended paragraph:

Example 1

Synthesis of methyl 3-(4-benzyloxyphenyl)-2-methoxyacetatemethoxyacrylate.

Please replace the paragraph at page 72, lines 9-16, with the following amended paragraph:

To a mixture of benzyloxybenzaldehyde (21.24 g, 100 mmol), sodium methoxide (18.77 g, 330 mmol) and methanol (200 mL) was added methyl methoxyacrylatemethoxyacetate (30.00 g, 297 mmol) in a nitrogen stream, and the mixture was heated under reflux for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was concentrated and diluted with butyl acetate. The organic layer was washed, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the title compound (23.8 g) in 80% yield.